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SOURCE Taegliche Rundschau, No 73, 23 Mar 50

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC DECREE
GOVERNING CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

In an article entitled, "For the First Time in History," Taegliche Rundschau outlines the Decree for the Development of Progressive Democratic German Culture. The following main points are covered:

Expansion of Schools, Research Institutes, and Other Cultural Establishments

1. Apart from funds provided for the construction and repair of schools under the law of 8 February 1950 concerning the Participation of Youth in the Development of the German Democratic Republic (DDR) and the Advancement of Youth in Schools and Professions, Sports and Recreation, 40,463,000 Deutsche marks have been set aside for the development of industrial training schools.

In expending these funds, special consideration will be given to overcoming backwardness in the rural school system.

2. In connection with the expansion of universities and schools for higher education, 24,790,000 Deutsche marks have been provided for reconstruction and equipment of buildings. The following amounts have been designated for specific projects:

Deutsche Marks

University of Berlin, including the Charite /University	8,000,000
Clinic/ and Labor and Peasant faculties	2,000,000
University of Leipzig	2,000,000
Land Brandenburg School for Higher Education in Potsdam	1,470,000
University of Jena	1,200,000
University of Halle	

3. An Institute of Economic Planning will be established in Berlin as a center for training in planning and statistics, for government economists and economists in the people-owned sector of the DDR.

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For the further expansion of the Dresden Institute of Technology and of the Mining Academy in Freiberg, 6,800,000 Deutsche marks have been set aside, and for the development of the Walter Ulbricht Academy of German Administration, 2 million Deutsche marks have been appropriated.

4. Fifty million Deutsche marks have been appropriated for scientific research and the development of new research institutes, apart from the budget provided for the German Academy of Sciences and the universities. These funds are to be used, in part, for developing the following scientific institutes required in connection with the fulfillment of the 1950 Economic Plan: Research Institutes for Iron and Steel, Nonferrous Metals, Magnetic Substances, Building Materials, Thermal Engineering, and Welding Techniques; Institutes for Applied Silicate Research, Catalysis Research, and Radiation Sources; and the Central Laboratory for Telecommunication Techniques.

5. The Higher School of Applied Arts in Berlin will be furnished a suitable new building; 600,000 Deutsche marks have been appropriated for the building operations in 1950. A training and research institute for industrial designs is to be added to the school, including departments for ceramics, household appliances, furniture, and textiles.

6. The Ministry for Popular Education will open a conservatory of music in Berlin to train highly qualified musicians. In connection with this project 6,450,000 Deutsche marks have been set aside for repair and equipment of a suitable building.

7. A Central Institute of Library Techniques will be instituted in Berlin under the auspices of the Ministry for Popular Education. This institute is to train qualified librarians for industrial libraries, libraries of people-owned agricultural combines, and rural reading rooms.

8. The former arsenal in Berlin will be converted into a museum of cultural history, a project for which 1,500,000 Deutsche marks have been set aside in 1950. An area of 3,000 square meters must be made available for exhibition purposes by 1 July.

German Academy of Sciences

1. The 250th anniversary of the founding of the German Academy of Sciences is to be a national celebration. Efforts will be made to assure that academy members residing in foreign countries will attend, as well as German and foreign scientists. The necessary funds will be provided by the Ministry of Finance, in accordance with a special resolution passed by the government of the DDR.

2. During 1950, 5 million Deutsche marks will be placed at the disposal of the German Academy of Sciences for important building projects and for the procurement of essential scientific equipment.

3. The academy's publishing house will be furnished with necessary quantities of paper. Furthermore, a fund of 240,000 Deutsche marks has been set aside for the publication of scientific works.

4. The Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry has been commissioned to allow the academy free access to the national preserves of the DDR, for scientific research.

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Central Teachers' Institute

1. For the development of the Central German Teachers' Institute and its branches in the various Laender, 400,000 Deutsche marks have been allotted.
2. The Ministry for Popular Education is to provide the basis for establishing a central pedagogical library in Berlin in 1950.

The Land governments and regional councils will be instructed to lend this project the required support.
3. To qualify teachers and raise the standard of vocational training, a German Central Institute for Vocational Training is to be set up by the Ministry for Popular Education and is to begin operating not later than 1 September 1950.
4. By order of the Ministry for Popular Education, a Central Institute for Films and Photographs on Training, Education, and Science, located in Berlin, will furnish schools and educational institutes with modern documentary films and slides.

Project for Training New Scientists and Artists

1. There are to be 400 fellowships for prospective scientists and artists during 1950 with a monthly stipend of 400 Deutsche marks.
2. The number of special grants of 300 Deutsche marks each, to outstandingly talented students at the universities and schools of higher education, will be increased to 150.
3. Scientists and artists in training and recipients of special grants shall be entitled to the same social insurance privileges enjoyed by regular students.

Improvement of Working Facilities for the Intelligentsia

1. Within the scope of the 1950 Economic Plan, the Ministry for Planning has set up an over-all program for the procurement of equipment and material for scientific research. This ministry will also keep the scientific institutes advised of production possibilities and of the introduction of new equipment and materials for scientific research.
2. Workrooms and studios will be made available under the plans for construction, repair, and expansion of houses and dwellings for intellectual workers. Materials provided under the investment plans of the Laender and communities shall be drawn upon as required. Intellectual workers will receive the necessary building allowances from funds set aside for this purpose. The importance of proper working space must be taken into consideration by the housing offices in making space allocations.
3. The libraries of universities and schools of higher education will be enlarged and kept supplied with the literature required for modern scientific research.
4. The Ministry for Popular Education, in cooperation with other competent ministries and the Promotion Committee, will set up a central office for the procurement of scientific literature published outside the territory of the DDR.
5. Production of drawing, painting, and sculpturing materials, and of musical instruments and music paper, will be increased.

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Improvement of the Intelligentsia's Living Standard

More and better student meals will be served at art academies and conservatories of music. Beginning 1 January 1950, directors and editors of licensed publishing houses, librarians engaged in public administration, teachers and lecturers at schools for judges, and new teachers will also receive heavy workers' rations. Scientists, engineers, writers, artists, and teachers will be furnished additional coal and will also be entitled to additional electric current. During 1950, 3,000 houses and dwelling units are to be rebuilt and repaired for the use of this group, and financial credits will be made available for 250 new home-building projects which are scheduled for completion by the end of 1950. The funds in question will be administered by the German Investment Bank.

An additional sanatorium in Bad Elster and a rest home in Schierke [Harz Mountains] will be provided.

Individual credits of up to 5,000 Deutsche marks will be granted to outstanding members of the intelligentsia for home and office furnishings and other personal needs.

National Prize award winners and their survivors will be paid pensions in the event of incapacity for work or in case of death.

Unless otherwise designated, the Committee for the Promotion of German culture, under the Minister-President of the German Democratic Republic, will be responsible for the execution of the above decree, which became effective on the date of its promulgation.

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